

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

4. (previously presented) A scanning assembly comprising:

a base; and

an optical scanner that is moveably attached to said base and pivotable relative to said base about an axis of rotation, wherein, said axis of rotation is moveable relative to said base in a direction transverse to said axis of rotation.

5. (previously presented) The scanning assembly of claim 4 and further comprising:

a hinge portion moveably attached to said base; and

wherein, said optical scanner is attached to said hinge portion.

6. (previously presented) The scanning assembly of claim 5 and further comprising:

at least one pin formed on said hinge portion;

at least one slot formed in said base, said slot having a length and a width, said length being greater than said width;

wherein, at least a portion of said pin is located within said slot; and

said pin is rotatable within said slot, thereby defining said axis of rotation.

7. (previously presented) The scanning assembly of claim 6 and further wherein:

said pin is moveable along said slot in said transverse direction.

8. (previously presented) The scanning assembly of claim 5, and further wherein said optical scanner is releaseably attached to said hinge portion.

9. (previously presented) The scanning assembly of claim 4, and further wherein said base comprises at least one guide member.

10. (previously presented) The scanning assembly of claim 9 and further wherein said guide member is moveable between:

an at least partially recessed position in which at least a portion of said guide member is recessed within said base; and

an extended position in which said at least a portion of said guide member is not recessed within said base.

11. (previously presented) The scanning assembly of claim 10 and further wherein said guide member is biased toward said extended position.

12. (previously presented) A method of scanning comprising:

providing a scanning assembly comprising a base and an optical scanner moveably attached to said base, said scanning assembly being capable of assuming at least a closed condition in which said optical scanner is substantially parallel to said base and an open condition in which said optical scanner is not substantially parallel to said base;

placing an object to be scanned on said base while said scanning assembly is in said open condition;

moving said scanning assembly to said closed condition by pivoting said optical scanner relative to said base about an axis of rotation;

displacing said axis of rotation in a direction transverse to said axis of rotation while said scanning assembly is being moved to said closed condition; and

scanning said object with said optical scanner after said moving said scanning assembly to said closed condition.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, and further wherein:

said scanning assembly further comprises a hinge portion moveably attached to said base; and

said optical scanner is attached to said hinge portion.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, and further:

wherein said scanning assembly further comprises at least one pin formed on said hinge portion and at least one slot formed in said base, said slot having a length and a width, said length being greater than said width;

wherein at least a portion of said pin is located within said slot; and

wherein said pivoting said optical scanner relative to said base about an axis of rotation comprises rotating said pin within said slot.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 14 and further wherein said displacing said axis of rotation in a direction transverse to said axis of rotation comprises moving said pin along said slot in said transverse direction.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 and further comprising:

removing said optical scanner from said base; and, thereafter

using said optical scanner to scan a second object that is not located on said base.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 and further wherein:

said base comprises at least one guide member; and

said placing an object to be scanned on said base comprises locating said object to be scanned on said base by engaging said object with said guide member.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17 and further wherein said guide member is moveable between:

a recessed position in which at least a portion of said guide member is recessed within said base; and

an extended position in which said at least a portion of said guide member is not recessed within said base.

19. (previously presented) A scanning assembly comprising:

a base;

an optical scanner moveably supported by said base;

said scanning assembly capable of assuming at least a closed condition in which said optical scanner is proximate said base and an open condition in which said optical scanner is not proximate said base; and

wherein, said base comprises at least one guide member.

20. (previously presented) The scanning assembly of claim 19 and further wherein said optical scanner is hingedly attached to said base.

21. (previously presented) The scanning assembly of claim 19 and further wherein said guide member is moveable between:

an at least partially recessed position in which at least a portion of said guide member is recessed within said base; and

an extended position in which said at least a portion of said guide member is not recessed within said base.

22. (previously presented) The scanning assembly of claim 21 and further wherein said guide member is biased toward said extended position.

23. (previously presented) The scanning assembly of claim 19 and further wherein:

said at least one guide member comprises a plurality of guide members; and

said plurality of guide members are sized and located such that they serve to locate said object to be scanned on said base.

24. (New) A method of scanning comprising:

providing a scanning assembly comprising a base and an optical scanner moveably supported by said base, said scanning assembly being capable of assuming at least a closed condition in which said optical scanner is substantially parallel to said base and an open condition in which said optical scanner is not substantially parallel to said base;

wherein, said base comprises at least one guide member;

locating an object to be scanned on said base while said scanning assembly is in said open condition by engaging said object with said guide member;

moving said scanning assembly to said closed condition; and

scanning said object after said moving said scanning assembly to said closed condition.

25. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein said optical scanner is hingedly attached to said base.

26. (New) The method of claim 24 and further wherein said guide member is moveable between:

an at least partially recessed position in which at least a portion of said guide member is recessed within said base; and

an extended position in which said at least a portion of said guide member is not recessed within said base.

27. (New) The method of claim 26 and further wherein said guide member is biased toward said extended position.

28. (New) The method of claim 26 and further comprising:  
moving said guide member to said at least partially recessed position  
while moving said scanning assembly to said closed condition.